Delay charges by DDA

†2078. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the previous and the present cost of the category one and two flats constructed in Nagin Lake Apartments by D.D.A. under the self-financing scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to delay in construction work allottees have to pay delay charges at the rate of eight per cent but later charges were recovered from them at the rate of eighteen per cent; and

(c) if so, the action being taken to stop such undesirable recovery and return excess amount to the allottees?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has informed that the cost of dwelling units of Nagin Lake Apartments, Self -Financing Scheme was initially finalized in January, 1998. The cost that included the cost of land, actual cost of construction, departmental charges, etc. and charged from original allottees who entered the scheme in the initial stage was Rs. 5.5 lacs to Rs. 6.76 lacs for Category II flats depending on the plinth area of the flat. There is no Category-I flat in Nagin lake Apartments. The present cost charged from allottees varies from case to case depending on the date of allocation, payment deposited from time to time, area of the flat etc. The Self-Financing Schemes have since been closed.

(b) No, Sir. However, interest is charged on defaulted payment depending upon the period of delay.

(c) question does not arise.

E-Governance project for Online payment of bills

2079. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry proposes to launch e-governance project to help the citizens of Delhi and other metros to get their water, power and other utility bills online;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's action plan to improve the overall culture and bring in transparency in local/civic bodies ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) A National Mission Mode Project on e-Governance in Municipalities is being formulated by the Ministry of Urban Development, covering 423 cities/towns having population of one lakh and above, for implementation during the period 2005-06 to 2009-10. The project would help achieve improved service delivery, decentralisation, better information management, and transparency, citizens' involvement in the Government, etc. Online payment of utility bills would be covered under this project. However, the details are yet to be finalized.

(c) As per entry 5 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, "Local Government, that is to say, the constitution and powers of municipal corporations, improvement trusts, district boards, mining settlement authorities and other local authorities for the purpose of local self government or village administration" is a State subject. Hence, action involves on the part of State Governments to take up suitable reforms to improve the overall culture and bring in transparency in locak-civic bodies. However, to help the urban local bodies (ULBs) function as self-sustaining units of grass-root democracy, this Ministry has been impressing upon the States to adopt provisions of Model Municipal Law, accrual-based double entry accounting system, property tax reforms, etc. New schemes, *viz.* Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) have also been launched by this Ministry under which financial assistance would be provided to States for development of urban infrastructure, subject to implementation of identified urban reforms. These reforms would improve overall culture and bring transparency in local-civic bodies.

Funds for Mega City Project in A.P.

2080. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh was received by his Ministry for providing additional funds during the year 2004-05 under mega city project for Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the date of its receipt; and

(c) the action his Ministry has taken thereon?